

CLAIMS

1. A method for fabricating muntin grid pieces wherein each muntin grid piece includes an inner muntin grid element and an outer muntin grid element; the muntin grid pieces being capable of being assembled into a muntin bar grid for a window; the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing an inner muntin grid element having a length;
- (b) providing an outer muntin grid element having a length;
- (c) spreading the outer muntin grid element open;
- (d) positioning the inner muntin grid element adjacent the spread open outer muntin bar element; and
- (e) closing the outer muntin grid element around the inner muntin bar element.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) includes the step of slitting a tube-shaped outer muntin grid element.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein step (e) includes the step of allowing the memory of the outer muntin grid element to close the outer muntin grid element around the inner muntin grid element.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) includes the step of providing the outer muntin grid element with at least one protruding foot that increases the width of the outer muntin grid element.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) includes the step of providing an outer muntin grid element fabricated from a flexible material.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the flexible material is a foam.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the foam includes a desiccant.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) includes the step of providing an outer muntin grid element having a rounded cross sectional shape.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein step (b) includes the step of providing an outer muntin grid element having a rectangular cross sectional shape.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein step (a) includes the step of roll forming the muntin grid element.

11. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of assembling the muntin pieces together to form a grid after the outer muntin grid elements are connected to the inner muntin grid elements.

5 12. A method for fabricating muntin grid pieces wherein each muntin grid piece includes an inner muntin grid element and an outer muntin grid element; the muntin grid pieces being capable of being assembled into a muntin bar grid for a window; the method comprising the steps of:

10 (a) providing an inner muntin grid element having a length;

(b) providing an outer muntin grid element having a length; and

(c) positioning the outer muntin grid element with respect to the inner muntin grid element such that the outer muntin grid element substantially surrounds the inner muntin grid element.

15 13. The method of claim 12, wherein step (b) includes the step of providing an outer muntin grid element having a rounded cross sectional shape.

14. The method of claim 12, wherein step (b) includes the step of providing an outer muntin grid element having a rectangular cross sectional shape.

20 15. The method of claim 12, wherein step (c) includes the step of sliding the outer muntin grid element over the inner muntin grid element.

16. The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of assembling the muntin pieces together to form a grid after the outer muntin grid elements are connected to the inner muntin grid elements.

5 17. The method of claim 12, wherein step (c) includes the step of wrapping the outer muntin grid element around the inner muntin grid element.

10 18. The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of connecting the outer muntin grid element to the inner muntin grid element with an adhesive.

15 19. The method of claim 18, further comprising the step of providing a flat outer muntin grid element.

20 20. The method of claim 19, further comprising the step of providing the outer muntin grid element in a roll.

21. The method of claim 12, wherein step (b) includes the step of providing the outer muntin grid element in the form of a collapsed parallelogram.

22. The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of providing the outer muntin grid element in a roll.

23. A muntin grid piece adapted to be used to form a muntin bar grid for a window; the muntin grid piece comprising:

an inner muntin grid element;

an outer muntin grid element; and

the outer muntin grid element surrounding at least three sides of the inner muntin grid element.

24. The muntin grid piece of claim 23, wherein the outer muntin grid element is fabricated from a foam material.

25. The muntin grid piece of claim 24, wherein the outer muntin grid element has a desiccant.

26. The muntin grid piece of claim 23, wherein the outer muntin grid element defines a slit.

27. The muntin grid piece of claim 26, wherein the slit in the outer muntin grid element defines opposed ends; the opposed ends being angled.

28. The muntin grid piece of claim 23, wherein the outer muntin grid element is in the form of a tube disposed around the inner muntin grid element.

29. The muntin grid piece of claim 23, wherein the outer muntin grid element is connected to the inner muntin grid element with a connector.

30. The muntin grid piece of claim 23, wherein the outer muntin grid element includes at least one protruding foot that increases the width of the outer muntin grid element.

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